

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Currently amended] A method for processing invoices
2 by having the ~~person~~ individual employee of an enterprise
3 creating an original order determine that a resulting
4 invoice should be paid or not, comprising the steps of:

5 preparing an invoice image of an invoice received for
6 services or commodities ordered by said ~~person~~
7 individual;

8 storing said invoice image in an image store;

9 keying said image to invoice data;

10 communicating an invoice confirmation request to said
11 ~~person~~ individual creating said original order, said
12 request including said invoice data and a link to said
13 invoice image;

14 responsive to ~~requester~~ selection of said link by said

15 individual, displaying said invoice image for approval
16 by said ~~person~~ individual creating said original order.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, further comprising
2 the step of:

3 preparing said invoice images by scanning paper
4 invoices received from a vendor.

1 3. [Original] The method of claim 2, further comprising
2 the step of:

3 preparing other of said invoice images by converting
4 electronic invoices received from a vendor into an
5 image file representation having the look and feel of a
6 paper invoice.

1 4. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, said
2 invoice confirmation request advising said ~~requester~~
3 individual to process said confirmation as negative
4 confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1 5. [Currently amended] The method of claim 4, said
2 invoice confirmation request further advising said ~~requester~~
3 individual to log on to a front-end requisition and catalog
4 server to view invoices for confirmation.

1 6. [Currently amended] The method of claim 5, further
2 comprising the step responsive to said ~~requester~~ individual
3 logging on to said front-end server of displaying a list of
4 invoices awaiting confirmation and responsive to user
5 selection of a selected invoice, presenting images of
6 invoices corresponding to links selected by said ~~requester~~
7 individual .

1 7. [Currently amended] The method of claim 1, further
2 comprising the steps of presenting to said ~~requester~~
3 individual an interface for selecting images of invoices
4 matching a selection criteria.

1 8. [Currently amended] A method for processing invoices

2 by having the ~~person~~ individual employee creating an
3 original order subject to a positive confirmation process
4 determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not,
5 comprising the steps of:

6 selectively executing a positive confirmation process
7 or a negative confirmation process;

8 said confirmation processes including communicating to
9 a user browser an image of said invoice to be approved
10 for approval by said ~~person~~ individual employee
11 creating said original order, said image selectively
12 resulting from scanning a paper invoice, or from
13 converting an electronic invoice, into an image file.

1 9. [Currently amended] A system for processing invoices
2 by having the ~~person~~ individual employee creating an
3 original order determine that a resulting invoice should be
4 paid or not, comprising:

5 a front-end requisition and catalog system;

6 a back-end procurement services system;

7 a scanner for scanning images of invoices;

8 an image system and store for storing said scanned
9 images and serving them to said workstation keyed to
10 said invoice;

11 a workstation selectively receiving user entry of a
12 requisition request, receiving confirmation requests,
13 and viewing images of invoices from said image system
14 and store;

15 said front-end system selectively receiving requisition
16 requests from said workstation, forwarding said
17 requisition requests to said back-end system, and
18 receiving confirmation requests from said back-end
19 system for forwarding to said workstation; and

20 said back-end system selectively issuing purchase
21 orders against said requisitions, receiving and
22 processing invoices, keying invoice images to invoice
23 information, and processing confirmation requests to
24 said front-end system for communication to said
25 workstation for approval by said ~~person~~ individual
26 employee creating said original order.

10. [Currently amended] A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for processing invoices by having the ~~person~~ individual employee creating an original order determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not, said method comprising:

preparing an invoice image;

storing said invoice image in an image store;

keying said image to invoice data;

communicating invoice confirmation request to a ~~requester~~ said individual employee, said request including said invoice data and a link to said invoice image;

responsive to requester selection of said link, displaying said invoice image to said ~~requester~~ individual employee for approval by said ~~person~~ individual employee creating said original order.

1 11. [Currently amended] A computer program product or
2 computer program element for processing invoices by having
3 the ~~person~~ individual employee creating an original order
4 determine that a resulting invoice should be paid or not
5 according to steps comprising:

6 preparing an invoice image;

7 storing said invoice image in an image store;

8 keying said image to invoice data;

9 communicating invoice confirmation request to ~~a~~
10 ~~requester~~ said individual employee, said request
11 including said invoice data and a link to said invoice
12 image;

13 responsive to ~~requester~~ selection of said link by said
14 individual employee, displaying said invoice image for
15 approval by said ~~person~~ said individual employee
16 creating said original order.

1 12. [Previously presented] The program storage device of
2 claim 10, said method further comprising:

3 preparing said invoice images by scanning paper
4 invoices received from a vendor.

1 13. [Previously presented] The program storage device of
2 claim 12, said method further comprising:

3 preparing other of said invoice images by converting
4 electronic invoices received from a vendor into an
5 image file representation having the look and feel of a
6 paper invoice.

1 14. [Currently amended] The program storage device of
2 claim 10, said invoice confirmation request advising said
3 ~~requester~~ individual employee to process said confirmation
4 as negative confirmation or a positive confirmation.

1 15. [Currently amended] The program storage device of

2 claim 14, said invoice confirmation request further advising
3 said ~~requester~~ individual employee to log on to a front- end
4 requisition and catalog server to view invoices for
5 confirmation.

1 16. [Currently amended] The program storage device of
2 claim 15, said method further comprising responsive to said
3 ~~requester~~ individual employee logging on to said front-end
4 server of displaying a list of invoices awaiting
5 confirmation and responsive ~~to user~~ to selection of a
6 selected invoice by said individual employee, presenting
7 images of invoices corresponding to links selected by said
8 ~~requester~~ individual employee.

1 17. [Currently amended] The program storage device of
2 claim 10, said method further comprising presenting to said
3 ~~requester~~ individual employee an interface for selecting
4 images of invoices matching a selection criteria.